



NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF NEBRASKA

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)
2433 N.W. 24th St., Lincoln, NE 68524-1801

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 24, 2014, 4 p.m.

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Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

A NEMA field team and its mobile operations center continues operations in Pilger to work with emergency managers in the areas affected by storms. The State Emergency Operations Center in Lincoln has reduced operation to normal staffing. NEMA will continue to monitor river levels, however, at this time, it appears that the water levels are going down. **Additional information, photos, and videos can be found on the following NEMA sites:**

<https://www.facebook.com/nema.page>, <http://www.youtube.com/user/TheNEMAtube>, and <https://twitter.com/NEMAtweets>

Voluntary Agency Relief Efforts

Unmet Needs--People who have unmet needs should meet with American Red Cross representatives who will be able to then refer them to all the various agencies in the affected area. The Multi-Agency Resource Center (MARC) which was located at the Wisner-Pilger High School has been relocated at the Wisner Fire Hall, 1055 Ave. D. Agencies, including: The Salvation Army, American Red Cross, All Hands, Billy Graham Crisis Outreach, Veteran Services and more, will be there to assist those impacted by the storms. Hours will be Thursday and Friday 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Shelters--Shelters continue to be available at Wakefield Community School and at Northeast Community College in Norfolk.

Feeding--Thanks to the agencies that have and continue to step forward to provide food to volunteers and those working in the recovery response efforts. The American Red Cross (ARC), Salvation Army, and United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) and Salem Lutheran Church will continue feeding in the impacted areas through Sunday.

Volunteer Assistance is still being accepted

Individuals desiring to volunteer for recovery efforts in **PILGER** should **report to the Pilger Swimming Pool** for check-in and assignments between the hours of **8 a.m. and 3 p.m.** A call-in line remains in place to address all volunteer opportunities for Pilger. The **call-in-line 402-833-1515** can be reached between the hours of **8 a.m. and 5 p.m.**

STANTON COUNTY needs volunteers to assist with debris clean up at farms in Stanton County. Volunteers can check in at the **Stanton County Courthouse** between **8 a.m. and 5 p.m.** to receive work assignments.

Individual desiring to volunteer for recovery efforts in the **WAKEFIELD AREA** are being asked to **report directly to the Wakefield Fire Station** for check-in and assignments between the hours of **8 a.m. and 5 p.m.** Volunteers can call **402-287-2574** during the aforementioned time.

Distribution Centers

All victims from any of the communities and rural areas of the northeast Nebraska counties hit by the June 16 tornados are reminded to go to the distribution centers if they have unmet needs. Victims who are staying with family or friends can still get items at the distribution centers. The centers have a wide variety of items including:

- Food
- Personal hygiene
- Clothing
- Laundry supplies

The **Wisner distribution center** is located at the **Wisner Auditorium**, 1001 Avenue D. If you have questions call the Volunteer Helpline at **402-833-1515** between the hours of **8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

The **Stanton distribution center** is located at the **VFW Post 3602**, 1106 Veterans Ave., **402-439-2113**.

Wakefield distributions are being distributed from two different locations.

- **Meals and Food** are available at the **Salem Lutheran Church**, 411 Winter St., phone **402-287-2681**.
- **Clothing** is available at the **Nearly New Store**, 303 Main St., phone **402-287-8700**.

Donations

Monetary donations continue to be the best way to help citizens affected by the storm. Multiple funds have been established. **Please contact NEMA with additional fund information to be added to future news releases.**

Pilger financial donations can be made at any Midwest Bank branch, referencing the "Pilger Emergency Fund." Checks may be mailed to:

Pilger Emergency Fund
Midwest Bank, Norfolk Branch
2501 West Benjamin Ave.
PO Box 886
Norfolk, NE 68702-0886

Donations for Six rural Stanton families can be made at the Stanton State Bank, referencing the "Stanton Tornado Relief Fund." Checks may be mailed to:

Stanton Tornado Relief Fund
Stanton State Bank
PO Box 437
Stanton, NE 68779

Pilger and Stanton survivors, financial donations can be made at the Stanton State Bank, referencing the "Pilger/Stanton Tornado Relief Fund." may be mailed to:

Pilger/Stanton Tornado Relief Fund
Stanton State Bank
PO Box 437
Stanton, NE 68779

Laurel Tornado Relief can be made at Security Bank, Laurel, 202 E. Second St., Laurel, NE 68745 during regular business hours.

Coleridge Tornado Relief can be made at Security Bank – Coleridge, 101 W Broadway, Coleridge, NE 68727 during regular business hours.

Those who would like to help by making a donation to **American Red Cross Disaster Relief** can do so by visiting www.redcross.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or texting the word REDCROSS to 90999 to make a \$10 donation.

Pilger Updates

Kim Neiman, the Pilger village clerk, has a temporary office, until further notice, in a trailer in the village campground. She will plan to have someone in the trailer to take messages when she's not there.

Nebraska State Patrol

The Nebraska State Patrol will continue to assist with patrols in the Pilger area.

Update from the NDOR Statewide Operations Center

Message boards remain in place on Hwy 15 warning motorists of heavy traffic and to reduce speed.

The Operations Division – Mobile Operations Team left Pilger early this morning and has returned to Lincoln. District staff has also left the area and returned to normal duties. NDOR contact numbers/information have been left with those in command should any additional assistance be needed.

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

The boil alert will continue for Pilger until further notice. According to Nebraska Health and Human Services water should be brought to a rolling boil for one minute to kill bacteria.

Nebraska National Guard

As of 8 a.m. Tuesday, the 20 Nebraska National Guard members assisting local authorities in maintaining public safety in and around Pilger, Nebraska, following tornadoes a week ago have been released from duty. The Soldiers, out of the 189th Transportation Company in Wayne and Norfolk, are processing off of state active duty orders and will be released by the end of the business day.

Nebraska Resource Accountability Team (NRAT)

The Nebraska Resource Accountability Team (NRAT) has demobilized from the Pilger area after registering volunteers, responders and residents for the response in Northeast Nebraska since June 18. NRAT is comprised of local emergency managers who work together as teams using rapid-tag equipment to account for people working at a disaster response or planned event.

The team maintains detailed reports of the response which helps the community as it requests assistance from state and federal government. (NRAT also deployed to Beaver Crossing and Wayne response previously after organizing in 2013.)

The two NRAT teams worked to badge and tracks volunteers, responders and equipment at Wisner-Pilger High School and one in Pilger.

As of the end of the June 22, the team logged 24,518 hours of volunteer time. The two largest days for volunteer response were June 18 with 1,453 volunteers and June 19 with 1,093 volunteers. An average of 500 volunteers registered in the Pilger area each day.

For more information on NRAT contact Deanna Beckman at 402-494-7554.

Updates Flooding:

Here are the current weather updates from the National Weather Service...

- The heavy rains last night stayed away.
- Rainfall amounts of a half to one inch were noted north and east of Blair, but these fell over a small area.
- The crest is now through Blair and Omaha is at crest.
- Plattsmouth and Nebraska City are close to cresting.
- Brownville and Rulo look to crest in the next day or so.
- Little to no rain expected in the next 24 hours.

Flood Information Links

<http://www.nema.ne.gov/newsroom/flooding-information.shtml>

<http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/flooding.aspx>

<http://www.ready.gov/floods>

<http://www.redcross.org/prepare/mobile-apps/flood>

<http://silverjackets.dnr.ne.gov/>

Flood Stages from the National Weather Service

Missouri River, as of 11:15 p.m. Monday, June 24, 2014

Verdel – 17.37 feet, flood stage is 24 feet

Niobrara – 15.17 feet, flood stage is 21 feet

Sioux City – 16.31 feet, flood stage is 30 feet

Decatur – 25.8 feet, flood stage is 35 feet

Blair – 23.98 feet, flood stage is 26.5 feet

Omaha – 26.56 feet, flood stage is 29 feet

Plattsmouth – 28.97 feet, flood stage is 26 feet

Nebraska City – 21.85 feet, flood stage is 18 feet

Brownville – 38.24 feet, flood stage is 33 feet

Rulo – 21.14 feet, flood stage is 17 feet

For previously released information please visit:

<http://www.nema.ne.gov/index.shtml>

and click on items in the Newsroom